IN THE CLAIMS

Amended claims follow. Insertions are underlined, while deletions are struck out. The status of each claim is included prior to each heading.

1. (Currently Amended) A system for allowing an application to be integrated with any one of a plurality of distinct types of programmable platforms, the system comprising:

(a) a platform-independent application capable of being integrated with any one of a plurality of distinct types of programmable platforms including programmable logic hardware devices;

(b) a platform-independent interface capable of interfacing, at least in part, the platform-independent application with any one of the distinct types of programmable platforms; and

(c) a platform-dependent interface situated on a predetermined programmable platform and capable of serving in conjunction with the platform-independent interface in interfacing the platform-independent application with the predetermined programmable platform.

2. (Original) A system as recited in claim 1, wherein the platform-dependent interface is specifically written to interface with the predetermined programmable platform.

3. (Original) A system as recited in claim 2, wherein the platform-dependent interface includes a library of platform-dependent resource interfaces which are wrapped with a standard interface capable of being accessed by the platform-independent interface.

4. (Original) A system as recited in claim 1, wherein the platform-independent application is specifically written to interface with the platform-independent interface.

5. (Original) A system as recited in claim 1, wherein the interface between the platform-independent application and the programmable platform is capable of being customized.

6. (Original) A system as recited in claim 5, wherein the interface is customized by accommodating the specific port requirements of the platform-independent application.

7. (Original) A system as recited in claim 5, wherein the interface is customized by including and excluding peripherals based on the requirements of the platform-independent application.

8. (Original) A system as recited in claim 5, wherein the interface is customized by dedicating memory resources required by the platform-independent application.

9. (Original) A system as recited in claim 5, wherein the interface is capable of being customized in accordance with user-specified criteria.

10. (Original) A system as recited in claim 9, wherein a graphical user interface is provided for allowing a user to enter the user-specified criteria.

11. (Original) A system as recited in claim 1, wherein a plurality of the applications are included each with a unique platform-independent application utilizing a single platform-independent interface including a plurality of plugs.

12. (Original) A system as recited in claim 11, wherein the platform-dependent interface of the programmable platform includes a plurality of sockets allocated to the plugs.

13. (Original) A system as recited in claim 11, wherein the platform-dependent interface of the programmable platform is capable of reserving resources for each of the applications.

14. (Original) A system as recited in claim 1, wherein the programmable platform includes a field programmable gate array (FPGA).

15. (Original) A system as recited in claim 1, wherein the platform-independent interface is written in a C-based variant programming language.

16. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

(a) a plurality of unique platform-independent applications;

(b) a platform-independent interface capable of interfacing, at least in part, the platform-independent applications with any one of a plurality of distinct types of programmable platforms including programmable logic hardware devices; and

(c) a platform-dependent interface situated on a predetermined programmable platform and capable of serving in conjunction with the platform-independent interface in interfacing the platform-independent applications and the predetermined programmable platform.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for allowing an application to be integrated with any one of a plurality of distinct types of programmable platforms, the computer program product comprising:

(a) a platform-independent application capable of being integrated with any one of a plurality of distinct types of programmable platforms including programmable logic hardware devices;

(b) platform-independent computer code for interfacing, at least in part, the platform-independent application with any one of the distinct types of programmable platforms; and

(c) platform-dependent interface computer code situated on a predetermined programmable platform for interfacing, at least in part, the platform-independent application with the predetermined programmable platform.

19. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

(a) a platform-independent application capable of being integrated with any one of a plurality of distinct types of programmable platforms including programmable logic hardware devices;

(b) a platform-independent interface capable of interfacing, at least in part, the platform-independent application with any one of the distinct types of programmable platforms; and

(c) a platform-dependent interface situated on a predetermined programmable platform and capable of serving in conjunction with the platform-independent interface in interfacing the platform-independent application with the predetermined programmable platform;

(d) wherein the interface between the platform-independent application and the predetermined programmable platform is capable of being customized in accordance with user-specified criteria utilizing a graphical user interface for allowing a user to enter the user-specified criteria.

20. (New) A system for allowing an application to be integrated with any one of a plurality of distinct types of programmable platforms, comprising:

a platform-independent application capable of being integrated with any one of a plurality of distinct types of programmable platforms including programmable logic hardware devices;

logic situated, at least in part, on a predetermined programmable platform, the logic including a platform-independent component capable of interfacing, at least in part, the platform-independent application with any one of the distinct types of programmable platforms; and a platform-dependent component capable of serving in conjunction with the platform-independent component in interfacing the platform-independent application with the predetermined programmable platform.